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## PSYCHIATRIC STUDIES OF DELINQUENTS.

### PART IV. SOME CONSTITUTIONAL FACTORS IN PROSTITUTION.

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EDITORIAL NOTE.—Parts IV and V, published in this issue, conclude this series of Psychiatric Studies of Delinquents. The other articles of the series were printed in Public Health Reports for May 21, May 28, and June 25, 1920.

#### Introduction.

Personality is dependent upon heredity, education, and external conditions and influences affecting life and development. Although the limit of individual development is largely dependent upon the first of these, the direction of this development is determined by the second and third factors. It can not be denied that heredity plays a part in establishing a tendency to the evolution of certain traits of character; but just how far these traits may be inherited or what conditions influence their transmission is not entirely clear. In fact, the character of the offspring can not with accuracy be foretold by considering that of the progenitors. Correlated with this is the fact that variations in heredity frequently occur and are exemplified by strong personalities arising from weak progenitors. On the other hand, education and experience may modify potentially bad traits of character and change them into desirable social attributes. The history of democracy is replete with instances of great men and women who were born under adverse social conditions and who had but poor educational opportunities. Bad progenitors, pernicious social environments, and poor educational opportunities form an insufficient basis upon which to classify a personality.

One object of this study is to gain a better understanding of the traits of personality that may serve as an index of the true nature of the individual. The starting point of such an inquiry is a determination of the intelligence level of the individual and his relative capacity for energy, output, and activity. These abilities, representing the most accessible measurements of natural endowment, were determined in these investigations by a study, in each case, of the school history, and of the efficiency and permanency of occupation, in addition to the application of formal psychological tests.

The present investigation included also an inquiry into the presence of traits of personality referable primarily to the individual's

estimate of herself, and whether or not these traits interfered in either a general or a particular way with her adjustment to the environment. For it was important for the purpose in mind to find out whether or not the individuals dealt with showed any power of actively shaping situations. Inquires were also made to determine whether or not the individuals under examination suffered mood disturbances and if such disturbances played a part in bringing them into conflict with the customs and conventions of society.

During the course of this investigation certain groups of cases were observed that showed similarity of make-up of the personal constitution of the individuals comprising them. A common characteristic of these groups is a tendency in the personality to interfere with the proper adjustment of such individuals to social usages. The groups are discussed under the following headings:

1. Egoistic Personality:
  - a. Egoistic traits in the epileptic.
  - b. Egoistic traits in indefinite epilepsy with feeble-mindedness.
  - c. Egoistic traits in uncomplicated feeble-mindedness.
2. Cases Allied to Egoistic Personality.
3. Seclusive and Fatuous Personalities:
  - a. Seclusive traits of character.
  - b. Fatuous traits of character.
  - c. Combination of seclusive and fatuous traits of character.
4. Obtrusive Personality:
  - a. Episodes of mania and depression.
  - b. Episodes of mania in the feeble-minded.
  - c. Habitual mood of elation.
5. Cases Allied to Obtrusive Personality.

#### 1. Egoistic Personality.

There is no denying the fact that a proper appreciation of one's own worth may be considered a good quality; but when it becomes exaggerated to such a degree as to make one arrogant or to cause one habitually to regard oneself as the center of all interest, it may be said to interfere with good mental adjustment. During this study a group of individuals were observed in whom an exaggerated self-esteem was the dominant trait of character. The term "egoistic personality" as used in this paper includes all cases showing an egoism that is clearly defined. Individuals temperamentally of this type require an unusual share of attention and perceive slights when none is intended. They are also suspicious and given to misinterpretations that harmonize with their own egoistic make-up. In consequence they have considerable difficulty in adjusting them-

selves to discipline and to customs of society. To this class the term "constitutional psychopathic inferior" has been applied. This type of personality is observed among epileptics and feeble-minded, and also among individuals who fall within the range of normal intelligence.

During the course of this survey, 41, or 20 per cent of all women examined, showed the egoistic temperament. Of the 29 white cases of this group, 4 were feeble-minded, 4 were feeble-minded epileptics, 1 had essential epilepsy, 5 gave histories of indefinite epilepsy, and 15 were classed as constitutionally psychopathic inferiors. Of the 12 colored cases, 3 were feeble-minded, 2 were feeble-minded epileptics, 2 had essential epilepsy, and 5 were classed as constitutionally psychopathic inferiors.

As to general characteristics of the cases of egoistic personality, it may be noted that all had been prostitutes of the mercenary type. As a group, none of the women had genuine love affairs that went very deeply or made any great impression. Those who married were dissatisfied, irritable, indifferent, and frequently domineering. There was a lack of the mother instinct and no desire for children. When children were born their care devolved upon some one else. As will be shown presently by illustrative cases, all were conceited, egotistical, and oversensitive. Many were exacting in their demands on those who were responsible for their care and comfort and were constantly finding fault with the most trivial incidents.

In regard to social relationships it was ascertained that they did not keep friends very long, and because of their inability to subordinate self, were never popular. Many came from large families, but did not get along well with their brothers and sisters or with one or both parents. In a number of instances one or more of their antecedents showed traits resembling those observed in this group.

In early life they had been irritable, and in school life they did not take proper advantage of the opportunities to learn. Many of them idled their time away, and because they did not like a particular study, gave up school entirely, or lost interest in it. Arithmetic appears to have been the most difficult. Obviously, many were slow in learning and had difficulty in keeping up with their classes. In most cases the deportment in school had been poor and truancy common. The reasons given for truancy in a number of instances were such as "did not like the teacher," "did not like to go," and "could not keep up with the class."

The egoistic traits of character just outlined are commonly observed in individuals who have definite epileptic convulsions. They are clearly shown in the following history of a feeble-minded epileptic woman 26 years of age, who, since her seventeenth year, had lived the life of a prostitute. As a child she was classed as "bad." In

school her deportment was always poor; she frequently quarreled with her teachers and usually spoke freely what she thought of them. She left the public school at 16, having reached the first year of high school without feeling as if she had profited by her school work. Her failure was largely due to her dislike of arithmetic. On the whole, her attitude toward authority was tactless, disrespectful, and antagonistic.

Leaving school, she obtained employment in a steam laundry, but kept this position only a few months, and later was married. Her attitude toward her husband was as disagreeable as it had been toward others. In consequence, they frequently separated and finally were divorced. She became a clandestine prostitute, and continued this practice even while working as chambermaid in numerous hotels in different cities. Again she held positions only for short periods. At one time she was apprehended by the authorities and committed to a reform school for 6 months.

In the fall of 1917 she remarried. When her husband was drafted into the United States Army, she followed him to camp. There she was arrested for prostitution and, on being found infected with a venereal disease, was quarantined at the industrial farm. She complained a great deal about her imprisonment, minimized her guilt, and tended to find fault with everyone with whom she came in contact. She was easily irritated by her companions and was decidedly oversensitive.

This woman's attitude toward authority and conditions in conflict with her desires began in very early life and has continued. These constitutional factors, which are of a psychopathic nature, brought her within the purview of the criminal as well as of the sanitary code. Interesting in this connection is the fact that her mother and sisters showed a disposition and temperament similar to her own.

The egoistic personality is further illustrated by the following case of feeble-mindedness associated with indefinite epilepsy. This woman claims to have attended school regularly until 16 years of age and to have done quite well in her classes. Since the school which she had attended was ungraded, it was impossible to determine what grades she failed in or what degree of progress she made. Soon after leaving school she married a responsible, ambitious man, and for a time thereafter attended a university with him. She could not take the college course, but was required to take up grade work. She lived with her husband about 8 years and gave birth to 4 children, 2 of whom are living. These 2 children at one time were wards of the juvenile court, having been taken from her by that court at least on one occasion.

Her husband divorced her because of her intimacy with another man with whom she has since lived in adultery. She has given birth

to one illegitimate child. After her divorce she moved to another town, where she lived a life of prostitution and crime. She was arrested numerous times for selling liquor illegally, and was also on the county's pauper list. At times she worked as a domestic and laundress in the community.

One day she quarreled with a man over some laundry work and, unable to control herself, became violent and threatening both in speech and acts. Relating the incident at home, both she and her common-law husband armed themselves with pistols, sought the man, and killed him. The woman made a vigorous attempt to shoot the man, but the cartridges failed to explode, so her husband shot the man from behind, killing him. After the shooting she again tried to fire her pistol at the helpless man, but without success. This incident but proves the vindictiveness and uncontrollable temper of the subject.

At the institution she did not associate freely with others, was always complaining of being ill-treated, but took especial delight in conversing with those in authority. To them she was servile and was always bearing tales about the shortcomings of others. She denied being guilty of any past wrong-doing and constantly attempted to exculpate herself when directly questioned about her unconventional behavior. Conceited, given to open self-admiration, extremely assertive of her rights, and highly oversensitive, she was most unhappy and imagined that she was being slighted. Moreover, she was subject to unusual attacks of baseless anger, and generally assumed an attitude of injured pride. Because of this attitude she caused endless trouble to those trying to please her and make her comfortable.

Toward her companions she always adopted a superior manner, and during conversations raised her eyebrows in a supercilious, inquiring way, as though she were condescending to talk to them. Usually she puckered up her lips in an unnatural manner as though she were pondering and deciding questions of considerable import. Her attitude was never flippant, but instead was that of a confirmed egoist.

When about 16 years of age she had some kind of "spells," which she described as "hot flashes in the chest," followed by unconsciousness. Since admission to the institution she has had attacks during which she pulls her hair and commits acts of violence against herself and others. These attacks are associated with at least partial unconsciousness.

In relating her story at the time of the examination, she used many unnecessary words, showed a tendency to bring an unusual number of qualifying adjectives into her conversation, and entered into minute details irrelevant to the questions.

This woman was obviously feeble-minded; but, in addition, she shows well-defined constitutional traits of character, essentially of a psychopathic nature. Her make-up resembles that of an epileptic, and the occurrence of spells or episodes fits in with such a classification. However, epileptic convulsions are not clearly defined. The egoistic traits of character stand out boldly and prevent her from realizing the rights of others or her duty to society, with disastrous consequences. In this connection it is of interest to note the statement of the county attorney in regard to his opinion of the case. He said: "She is of such a nature that it is better for society that she be forever segregated from it."

The egoistic personality was also observed in association with uncomplicated feeble-mindedness. Illustrative of this type is the case of a woman 20 years of age, who had been a prostitute for years and was infected with both gonorrhea and syphilis. Her parents separated after her birth; her mother died when she was but 2½ years old. It is said that the mother suffered frequently from some kind of mental disease, during which she showed considerable excitement and pressure activity. After the mother's death, the girl was taken away and placed with a maternal aunt with whom she remained until she was about 6 years of age. She did not get along very well with her aunt's family, being saucy, heedless of advice, and frequently displaying an ungovernable temper. On the whole she was quite incorrigible. She was returned to her father, who placed her with another relative, but when she showed the same tendency to incorrigibility, this relative would not keep her.

Her father then took her back to his home, later placed her in a detention home, and finally left her with a family who lived in a boarding house. She was then 8 years of age. She remained with this family until she was 11. About this time, acting against the advice of her foster mother, she obtained a position which paid her \$6 a week. In this position she worked steadily for about 6 months, during which time she resided in the same boarding house as did her foster parents. When she was 13 years old, her father, who had left his home town and gone away for his health, died of tuberculosis. At this time she became pregnant, and her foster mother placed her in a refuge home, where she remained 3 years.

On leaving this place she obtained a position as clerk in a store, earning \$7 a week. She lived at a prominent hotel in the town, and for a time carried on a thriving business as a clandestine prostitute. For this she was arrested and sent to a State industrial school for 2½ years. After leaving there she entered a house of prostitution and was married a few weeks afterward. Her husband obtained a home for her; but while he was at work she plied her business of

prostitution and was arrested on a charge of vagrancy. Three months after her marriage, the husband was drafted and sent to camp. She then left home to reside in another town, where, presently, she was arrested. On being released she sought residence in still another town, where, within 2 weeks, she was arrested and fined \$25 for vagrancy. To satisfy this fine she remained in jail 3 weeks, and at the expiration of that time she was examined, found diseased, and ordered into quarantine.

Her schooling, obtained mostly in institutions, had been much interrupted. When she first began to attend school, between 6 and 8 years of age, she played truant, and would never heed her teacher's injunctions. At the institutions where she resided she finished the work of the eighth grade. Grammar was always her most difficult study, but she thinks she learned rapidly enough. She never liked her teachers and never would apply herself to study but only idled her time away. According to the Binet-Simon scale she graded 10 years mentally.

Throughout her entire life she has been incorrigible, and even as a baby was given to attacks of ungovernable temper, or "tantrums," and manifested antagonism toward all authority. She was evidently an unlovable child, who gave her foster parents much concern and anxiety. In her early childhood she manifested curiosity regarding sexual matters. At 6 years of age she attempted to have sexual relations with small boys. At one of the homes where she lived she had regular intercourse with a boy of 10 with whom she slept. Until the age of 13 she continued to go about with small boys and to have illicit relations with them. After that age she began having relations with men, the first one being 34 years of age. It was then that she became pregnant.

While at the first institution she attempted to run away and to be with men who were working in near-by fields, and required very close supervision. At this time her chief topics of conversation concerned sexual matters. She learned from companions the possibilities of making money by prostitution, and when discharged she straightway began such a life. This immediately resulted in her rearrest and incarceration in a State industrial school. At that place she was kept locked up a good deal of the time. On her parole she became an inmate of a bawdy house, and later married upon the advice of the woman who was instrumental in obtaining her parole. She had no regard for her husband, and stated that she had never been in love with anyone. Intellectually inferior, she was also egotistical, extremely sensitive, selfish, and stubborn, and even during the period of her isolation she showed attacks of violent anger when not allowed her will.



This type of personality resembles the temperaments shown in the examples cited above, but there is no history of convulsive seizures or anything suggesting them. On the whole, the traits are dependent upon constitutional factors in their make-up and are of a psychopathic nature.

## 2. Cases Allied to Egoistic Personality.

Certain individuals exhibit well-defined selfish motives that may bring them into conflict with the conventional standards of the community. During the course of this study 32, or 15 per cent of all women examined, were classified as belonging to a group temperamentally allied to the egoistic type. Of these 32 women, 29 were white and 3 colored.

As a group, they showed quick and alert intelligence, differing in this respect from the egoistic type. Moreover, their exaggerated esteem of self was not so marked in very early life, but as puberty approached, they became arrogant and dictatorial. At this stage of development they showed an antipathy toward the mother or older sisters, would not heed their advice, and threw barriers about themselves on the grounds of supposed wrongs. For example, they imagined that their mothers were too severe and their sisters too dictatorial, and thus built up a resentment that crystallized into habits of thought and conduct. They were usually fond of the father, who in most instances was indulgent. But this indulgence exaggerated their resentment toward the mother and tended to strengthen the barriers which prevented normal relationships with others of the family.

From the social standpoint, their experience resembles that of the egoistic type. They usually had but one girl friend at a time. To each in turn they were very much attached, but such friendships did not last very long and were given up on slight provocation. To their intimates they were dictatorial and domineering. As a rule their love affairs were very perfunctory, as they did not show the tenderness, self-sacrifice, and self-subordination that one would naturally expect in a genuinely deep love. Like the egoistic, too, they were vain and given to self-admiration. In explanation of their conduct they would try to exculpate themselves on the ground that they were not given a chance at home, that the mother showed favoritism to other members of the family; yet, on the other hand, they were invariably the father's favorite. They were extremely fond of pretty clothes and would go to any extreme to satisfy the desire for self-aggrandizement.

It is believed that this type is at least on the border line of the psychopathic group and that their mental maladjustment is largely due to faulty methods of training that have permitted the unbridled development of bad traits of personality. Self-admiration and the

warping of their love life prevented them from realizing that they were units in the organization of society, and therefore from understanding and appreciating their obligations to others.

An example of this type is afforded in the case of a woman 24 years of age, quarantined because of venereal disease, who had been a prostitute and the mistress of different men since she was 17 years old.

She began to attend school when 5 years old, and attended regularly until she was 16, when she reached the second year of high school. She claimed that her progress in school was rapid, but one of her former schoolmates denied the truth of this statement. According to this schoolmate she was always willful and headstrong, did not get along with her teachers, and her deportment was always more or less questionable. She was selfish, somewhat dictatorial, and had few friends or close companions. After leaving school she went to live with the grandmother, because her older sister insisted upon giving her advice, which she resented. Of this she said: "My sister bossed me too much, so I let myself go." This she gave as her reason for entering upon the unconventional life she led. She was never especially fond of members of her family, but liked her father best.

After living with her grandmother for 4 or 5 months, during which time she was a clandestine prostitute, she went to another town to enter a training school for nurses. There she did not apply herself very diligently, and finally, after 4 or 5 months, gave it up and returned to her grandmother.

For about 3 years thereafter, she lived as mistress of a man in her home town, and in addition was a well-known prostitute in the community. She then left her home for a city in the Southwest, where she was for some time an inmate of a bawdy house. There she met a soldier whom she married. He bought her a "beauty parlor" and set her up in business before he was transferred to another camp, pending his departure overseas. Soon she tired of her beauty parlor, sold out the business, and proceeded to a town adjoining one of the military camps. There she was arrested on suspicion, examined, found diseased, and ordered into quarantine.

Further inquiry into her sexual life reveals the fact that she committed her first offense against the law of chastity when 17. She stated that she had never loved anyone, and that she had never had any regard for her paramours, except that of a mercenary nature which came from the fact that they provided her with spending money and pretty clothes.

### 3. Seclusive and Fatuous Personalities.

Two other types of personality were observed among the women studied. One of these has been termed the seclusive temperament and the other the fatuous. The character of the first of these is

essentially one of reticence, shyness, and seclusiveness, whereas the character of the second is one of silly, stupid behavior, with a sense of self-complacency. Other cases were observed showing traits of character that are admixtures of these two types. One or two specific incidents will illustrate the main characteristics of this type of temperament.

During the course of these studies, 51, or 24.7 per cent of the women observed (37 white, 14 colored), showed the seclusive and fatuous temperaments. Some of them had these traits sufficiently developed to warrant their being classed as psychopathic, but in all the traits interfered with good mental and social adjustment. Of the 37 white cases, 26 were feeble-minded, 1 was constitutionally psychopathic inferior, and 10, although classed as intellectually normal, as far as formal psychological tests are concerned, nevertheless possessed these traits of character to a degree sufficient to interfere with adaptation to social conventions. Of the 14 colored cases observed, 11 were feeble-minded and 3, although classed as normal mentally, did not show good adaptative capabilities.

The traits that stand out prominently in the personalities with seclusive and fatuous temperaments are the inability to shape situations to meet their needs and the lack of outside interests that serve as balancing factors in conventional behavior. The seclusive temperaments are fanciful and appear to derive a good deal of satisfaction from ruminations and longings. In an attempt to fulfill certain longings and desires, they adapt themselves in a peculiar stilted and awkward way; and, moreover, in their effort to be like others, they easily overstep the boundary line of convention. As a rule they do not belong to the mercenary type of prostitutes, but were quiet, easily influenced, surreptitious type. Even in school they showed the so-called "shut-in tendencies." The fatuous temperaments are childlike and trusting, easily influenced for good or bad, and women of this type accidentally adopt prostitution as a means of earning a living that they can not otherwise accomplish without supervision. In school they are usually laggards, and many are unable to do the work of the public schools. As they grow older their childlike emotional behavior continues. They are also especially liable to hallucination.

The seclusive type of personality may be illustrated by the case of a woman 30 years of age, who was infected with a venereal disease. She was not a mercenary type of prostitute and denied ever having sold her virtue for a consideration. She attended school regularly until 16, and made good progress as far as the eighth grade, but repeated this grade 3 times. Later she finished the second year of high school. Upon leaving school she obtained a position as book-keeper in a general store and competently filled this position for 2 years. She then gave up her position to teach in the rural public

schools, but did this for one term only, and then returned to her former position. A short time afterwards, when about 20 years old, she married the manager of the store. This was her first love affair, and as the time approached for her marriage she wavered a good deal and was not comfortable about it. Although she never seriously thought of breaking her engagement, she was not sure that she wanted to marry at all. She finally did so, however, and to her husband was affectionate, never jealous, and was on quite good terms with him.

Six years after her marriage, the husband went West for his health, leaving her behind. Upon his departure she went to the city and obtained a position, which she held satisfactorily for 3 years. She left her home against her husband's wishes, and soon afterwards he divorced her on the grounds of desertion. This, however, did not interfere with her peace of mind in the least.

As a child she was bashful, and since she has grown up she has been timid and backward—this trait being more marked when strangers were present. She was never capable of making many friends and kept her acquaintances always at a distance. She has never been demonstrative toward anyone, but has been reticent about herself and has never had any confidants with whom she could discuss her ambitions or difficulties, not even having placed her confidences in her older sister. Sometimes she wished that she were active, talkative, and gifted with a sense of humor like others whom she met. In an attempt to overcome this reticence she became acquainted with a fellow employee who took her about a good deal and introduced her to men.

Toward men she was shy, but longed to be comfortable and at ease in their presence. She always felt that they were making remarks with hidden meanings that had some sexual significance. In her attempt to overcome shyness her manner was awkward and stilted and lacked the comfort and ease that goes with good adjustment. She did not know how to enjoy the companionship of others instinctively and allowed men to make improper advances to her. She could not protect herself, and without much struggle began to have illicit relations with them. She always did these things in association with a girl friend who no doubt influenced her a good deal. During one of their parties she was arrested and found diseased.

She never could plan new work or undertakings or shape situations to fulfill her social demand in the conventional way. Her work has always been of a routine character, and she was never unduly precise. She read the newspapers occasionally, but had no especial interests or hobbies, nor did she obtain much pleasure from games or ordinary amusements. Religion has not filled a place in her life, although she attended church a good deal. In other words, so far as the outside

world is concerned, her interests have been superficial and have not served as balancing factors in her mental make-up.

The other type belonging to this group, that with fatuous make-up, is illustrated in the case of a feeble-minded woman 22 years of age. This woman had a vacuous expression, and at first glance seemed mentally inferior. She showed, in addition to this vacuousness, a number of mannerisms: While sitting quietly and unobserved, she would swing the body from side to side, a movement much like that of a weaver. When spoken to she would suddenly brace up from apparent preoccupation and become attentive in a constrained or forced way. She answered quite promptly when addressed, but with a slight lisp and a high pitched voice. On the whole, her manner was that of a trustful child, easily blushing and shy. When joked she wriggled about like a little girl. The psychometric tests were taken in the light of a game which she enjoyed very much. Her grading by the Binet-Simon scale was nine years mentally.

Her father was an illiterate laborer, who provided as best he could for his family. The mother died some 15 months prior to the case's admission to the institution, leaving her the eldest in charge of a family of 3 children. A short time after her mother's death she was escorted home from church by a man whom she says she could do nothing with and who took advantage of her. This was her first offense against chastity. A short time afterward she was told by her father to leave home as he was going to marry. She then visited a town near one of the military camps, where anyone who paid her room rent could stay with her. Because of prostitution she was apprehended, found diseased, and quarantined. In quarantine she was found to be pregnant. After 3 or 4 months' treatment she was discharged as cured of infection. She again returned to the same town from which she was quarantined and the first day out met a soldier who paid her room rent and remained with her that night. He then made a "date" for his friend for the following night, but voluntary aid came to her rescue and she was placed in a home where she could work for her support and receive care during confinement.

In relating the story of her social adjustment, after being cured of her infection, she told it in a most matter-of-fact manner, apparently unable to realize that she had done wrong. At no time did she appear afraid, but seemed exceedingly trustful and dependent upon those who befriended her.

Such a case points out the obligation that society owes to these types of feeble-minded women. It is likely that her progeny will also be feeble-minded and will require special guidance and care.

Characteristics that appear to be admixtures of the seclusive and fatuous traits described above may be illustrated in the following history of an 18-year-old feeble-minded woman, who graded 11 years

mentally according to the Binet-Simon scale. She began school at 9 and left at 14, but did not make reasonable progress. However, she finished the sixth-grade work. Spelling and arithmetic were her most difficult subjects.

After leaving school she remained for a time with her mother, but she did not like her stepfather and so ran away to live with a sister. At 16 she married and thereafter obtained employment as a domestic at different places. Her mother persuaded her to leave her positions, and as she was never capable at work, she became dependent for her clothes upon her mother or sister. She was always impulsive in her judgments. As a child she was sluggish and did not care to play, as she thought it foolishness. Playmates would say things she did not like and she would go home. Even as a child she preferred to be alone.

She had always been in a hurry to do her work and because of haste and inefficiency often had to do it a second time. This was shown in her work at the institution.

There was always evident a tendency to pay unusual attention to her aches and pains. Noises made her "nervous"; they gave her "cold flashes" and caused her to shake "all over" and to "want to scream." Talking, pounding, or street noise also made her feel this way. It was especially at these times that she most desired to be alone. She had always been somewhat irritable and difficult to please and had never been very "sociable." Never did she associate freely with people, but she would talk when addressed. She denied being bashful, but during interviews she was not quite at ease, sighed a good deal, and appeared rather stilted in her emotional behavior.

She has always been easily offended, envious of her acquaintances, and is of a jealous disposition. There was, however, never any outward demonstration of her likes or dislikes. Like cases of other types, she never had any confidants to whom she could unburden herself. She could not talk freely even with her mother or sister. Never of her own accord did she volunteer information about her difficulties.

When her mother died, she claimed to have been much hurt, but did not cry because she did not believe in doing so. Apparently she did not take her mother's death as hard as did other members of the family. At this time she was 8 blocks from home and claimed she could hear her mother breathing. Since being in the institution, she has heard her mother's voice in the form of thoughts telling her not to do wrong.

Before her marriage she gave birth to an illegitimate child, and since has been a clandestine prostitute. She denies any attachment to men and after being with them wants to get away. However,

she drinks with them when opportunity affords. Because of her prostitution she was arrested, found diseased, and ordered quarantined.

The personality of this case shows the "shut-in tendencies" rather clearly defined; but, in addition, there is more or less of a finical manner displayed in her emotional adjustment.

#### 4. Obtrusive Personality.

Another type of personality observed during the course of these studies belongs to a group of cases whose constitutional traits serve in the genesis of a psychosis characterized by mood disturbances. This type shows emotional variability in the form of moods of elation or depression that interfere with efficiency or capacity for work. Moreover, persons showing elated moods, pressure of activity, and general psychomotor restlessness are very liable to be promiscuous in adapting themselves to their sexual demands. The incidence and characteristics of this obtrusive personality may be briefly discussed.

Maniclike reactions were observed among the feeble-minded and also among those of normal intelligence, but the latter were considered as being of a psychopathic character. During this study 26, or 12.6 per cent of the women observed (17 white and 9 colored), had the obtrusive temperament. Of the 17 white cases, 7 were feeble-minded and 10 were classed as constitutionally psychopathic inferiors. Of the 9 colored cases, 5 were feeble-minded and 4 were psychopathic inferiors. In some instances the reaction occurred episodically and in others habitually, but it always interfered with proper adaptation.

During their episodes of excitement, a feeling of elation and well-being induced activity in the sexual sphere. In consequence they were liable to be promiscuous and intensely potent. This group showed in early life an excessive amount of energy and overactivity, characterized by too much stimulation and tension. In other words they are "flighty," easily stimulated to inordinate activity and impulsiveness. Certain episodes of mania and depression in this type may be cited. One example is the case of a prostitute 30 years of age, infected with both gonorrhea and syphilis, and committed to the institution on a charge of adultery. She began school when 6 and finished the eighth grade when 15. She always liked to attend school, made good grades, and took advantage of the opportunities to obtain an education. Her intelligence was normal.

After leaving school she worked for a while as a domestic servant and lived at home with her mother. At this time she met a man some years her senior, whom she agreed to marry. Her mother liked him, but as the time for the marriage approached, the girl wavered and did not wish to marry. Her mother finally persuaded

her to marry, at least for a home. Of her husband she said: "He was a nasty nice man; he had no vices." An hour after her marriage she "hated him," but lived with him about 6 years. Frequently she seriously thought of leaving him, as his relatives made life miserable for her. They were jealous, she insisted, because she "had nice things to keep house with."

She first became pregnant 3 years after marriage, but did not desire the child and was quite upset over the prospect of bearing children. This, she said, was due to the fact that children might interfere with her leaving him or her making her own living. During that pregnancy she was "nervous" and could not sleep. The child died when he was about 2½ years old and during the woman's second pregnancy. The second child died a month after its birth. She took these deaths very hard and soon afterwards separated from her husband. For 2 years she traveled over the western part of the United States, working as a domestic. At the expiration of that time she suffered an attack of depression.

During this period of depression she was very despondent, could not sleep, remained in bed a large part of the time, and could not work. She finally attempted to shoot herself, but was prevented from doing so. It is unknown what lifted her out of this depression, but following it she became very happy, excitable, and overactive. During the episode of excitement, she traveled to different cities in the West, earning her living by prostitution. This episode of excitement lasted about 9 months, when she again developed a depression.

During this period of depression she was sexually anesthetic and very subdued, but drank freely, sometimes until unconscious. How long this depression lasted she was unable to state; but afterwards she had another period of excitement, when she was very amorous and active, sleeping only two or three hours at night. Alcohol, which she drank to excess, made her more excitable.

She was unable to tell through how many episodes of depression and excitement she had passed, as no doubt many of them were marked by excessive indulgence in alcohol. During her last excitement she plied her trade with such diligence and disregard of health that her friends undertook to advise her to rest. In explaining her conduct she stated that she was money mad, and during one week earned \$150 as a prostitute. Her fees were at the rate of \$2. This illustrates very well her state of excitement and overactivity.

In company with another prostitute and 2 men she toured by automobile to a distant resort town for rest. They quarreled a good deal on their way, drank frequently and upon arrival were without funds. She and her male partner attempted to return home by rail, traveling a short distance each day on the money she earned by prostitution. They had crossed 3 States by this method when both



were arrested on suspicion of being implicated in a local robbery. At the preliminary hearing she plead guilty to a charge of adultery and was sentenced to the industrial farm for 6 months.

The psychopathic traits of character observed in this case are responsible for her antisocial conduct and for bringing her within the scope of the codes. Her reactions toward the community have been those of a mentally disordered person, mild in some instances, but, nevertheless, abnormal. To the community her psychopathic traits have been masked by alcoholic indulgence, which was a part of her mental trouble.

An illustrative example of manic episodes occurring in the feeble-minded is the case of a woman 20 years of age, who graded 7 years by the Binet-Simon scale. She had been a prostitute for years; she was found infected with gonorrhea, and was quarantined. Both she and her sisters, as well as her father, have been problems to the community for years, guilty of petty crimes, such as illicit sale of liquor, alcoholism, prostitution, and dependency. This woman had been a streetwalker for some years, an irresponsible social unit in the community. She was more or less excitable. Her conduct had been condoned because of her recognized mental deficiency. The excitement, which occurs periodically and from which she was suffering at the time of her admission, had been characterized by overactivity, hilarity, and unusual sexual promiscuity. During these excited periods she was very talkative, noisy, swore a great deal, and caused considerable disturbance in the neighborhood. Her excitement and overactivity were always accentuated by alcohol, which she drank to excess whenever she had the opportunity.

On admission to the institution, she was excited, easily stimulated to overactivity, very talkative, and flippancy in manner. She was easily stimulated to laugh; she laughed immoderately and quite out of keeping with the situation. Her dress, in harmony with her heightened mood, was characterized by an array of exceedingly bright colors. At the time of the first interview, she was not quite clearly orientated as to place and thought she had seen the examiner before, which was not true. There was no physical sign indicative of organic psychoses.

Habitual manic reactions of less marked type were also observed in other individuals, who might be described as psychopathic inferior of the obtrusive type. An example is afforded in the case of a woman 20 years of age with normal intelligence. Her father was a half-breed Cherokee Indian with a violent and ungovernable temper. He mistreated her mother, who was a submissive, kind-hearted, and hard-working woman. The father never drank, nor was he unduly religious. He was usually very indulgent toward his children, especially toward

the subject. He often made sporadic attempts to curb the children's activities, and at such times was harsh and cruel.

As a child she attended school from her sixth until her thirteenth year, and made good progress in spite of habitual truancy. She was unruly, mischievous, and disobedient to her mother. This attitude was encouraged by the father, who would pat her and call her "his girl." She was always more fond of her father, because her mother corrected her and whipped her too often, sometimes twice a day.

During childhood she always believed that her mother was jealous of her because she was her father's favorite, and that this, perhaps, was the reason why the mother whipped her so much. To support the contention that she was her father's favorite, she stated that he always whipped the other children and petted her. As she grew older, the father would not let her go to places; and so she ran away from home and went to live with her aunt in town. There she did not get along well, played truant from school, and ran away from her aunt. She finished the eighth-grade work and got along with her teachers fairly well.

Since having grown up she has been impulsive in her acts, as she was, even in childhood, never applying herself diligently to anything, and never learning to sew until she came to the institution. She had always, however, had an extra amount of energy, with lots of activity and tension. At times she became unruly and irritable and took delight in worrying people. Yet, with all her energy, she had worked but 3 full days in her life. This was in a position as a waitress.

She married when 15 years of age, but thought seriously of breaking her engagement, and wavered considerably as the time for marriage approached. At the marriage ceremony, when she said "I will," the bridegroom squeezed her hand. From that time she was disgusted with him.

Her husband, according to her statement, was a kind, considerate, good man, and treated her well. She had no regard or feeling for him, and during the first year of their married life she had illicit relations with another. At the end of a year they separated and she lived as the common-law wife of her paramour. She soon tired of him and has since lived a promiscuous sexual life. Because of prostitution she was arrested, and being found diseased, she was quarantined.

During her stay in the institution she was jovial, jolly, and exhilarated in spirits. This mood and the pressure of activity associated with it were out of all proportion to the situation. Besides her prostitution, which she has carried on clandestinely, she had also picked the pockets of her paramours whenever opportunity was offered; but this she claims to have done as a joke.

While the cases referred to above are definitely psychopathic in character, other personalities were observed with characteristics closely allied to these, that perhaps serve as the geneses of unconventional behavior.

#### 5. Cases Allied to Obtrusive Personality.

This group comprises the jolly, jovial, excessively congenial types, somewhat obtrusive in character, but capable of making acquaintances easily. They are usually impulsive and easily stimulated to daring undertakings. In consequence, they often find themselves in compromising situations.

As a type they are usually demonstrative, quite romantic, and very suggestible. Moreover, they may have episodes of depression that limit the capacity for occupation or attacks of irritability that result in inefficiency. It may be assumed in the light of past experiences that this type of individual, with a limited education and under adverse environment, is liable to escapades that would ultimately lead to infection with a venereal disease.

During the course of this survey, 7 white and 8 colored women were observed to have temperaments or personalities that were allied to the obtrusive type.

#### Recapitulation.

The traits of character that stand out prominently in the personalities studied are divided into three large groups, namely: Those in whom the exaggerated estimate of self prevented proper mental and social development; those in whom there was a diminution of contact with the cares and pursuits of others that prevented proper social adjustment; and those showing mood disturbances, pressure of activity, and increased stimulability that interfered with social adaptation. These groups comprised 150, or 72.8 per cent, of the 206 cases studied. In addition to these 150 cases, there were 15 allied to them in characteristics, leaving but 41, or 19.9 per cent, with normal personal make-up.

Many of the 150 cases showed these traits early in life, indicating that educational authorities should recognize these personalities and attempt to develop desirable traits that make for proper balance in mental adjustment and adaptation.

On the other hand, it was observed in these 150 cases that there was a lack of tenderness and regard for their paramours; that their sensual feelings were well developed, but there was no tenderness combined with these, a necessary requisite for the instinctive biological demands of mating. This lack of instinctive development is characteristic of the neurotic and psychopathic constitution.